

### THE EVIL EYE.

#### Shakespeare's Vellied Allusions to It in "Richard III."

There are several passages in Shakespeare's play of "Richard III." which, taken in connection with an ancient superstition rife in the England of Elizabeth—indeed, still flourishing in many parts of the continent and even lingering here and there in our own land yet—seem to indicate a probability that the dramatist meant us to understand that Richard, as conceived by him, possessed the power of "fascination" through the evil eye. It is true that Shakespeare does not say this in so many words, but the fact of the prevalence of the belief in the evil eye in his day would render it unnecessary for him to do more than hint at or suggest it, and a far stronger argument in explanation of his not making the statement direct would be found in the common persuasion that attaches to so many folkloric superstitions that it is dangerous to mention supernatural or uncanny things by name. We are not obliged to assume in consequence of this that Shakespeare himself believed in the evil eye, and for the present purpose it does not matter whether he did or not, but we do know, as he knew, that most of those who formed his audiences believed in it. For his ends the notion would have a striking dramatic value, and it would also help to explain the extraordinary way in which Richard "fascinated" first Ann and then Elizabeth immediately after having wrought them serious injury.

To turn to the passages in question, in I, ii, 45 (Globe text) Ann Nevil says with reference to Gloucester, "Mortal eyes cannot endure the devil." The word "devil" here would have in this case not a general, but a special appropriateness, since possessors of the evil eye were supposed to have acquired that mischievous organ, with its powers of bewitchment, through a compact with Satan. I, ii, 78, contains the word "infection," applied by Ann to Gloucester, a term regularly used of the evil eye. In I, ii, 90, we find the phrase "devilish slave" used to Gloucester by Ann. This, viewed in the light of the other passages we are dealing with, may allude to Gloucester's pact with the devil, whereby he became his agent or "hell's factor to buy souls" (YL-iv, 75), in pursuit of which business the evil eye bestowed on him by Satan would be invaluable in attracting and "fascinating" customers. Again, in I, ii, 144, Ann spits at Gloucester. It is needless to remark that from the earliest times in all ages and among all peoples one of the commonest antidotes to "fascination" (the technical term for the action of the evil eye) or other evils was despuere malum. In I, ii, 149, we have the accusation again hurled at Gloucester by Ann: "Out of my sight! Thou dost infect mine eyes." In I, iii, 225, we find another accuser in Queen Margaret, who, to Gloucester, says, "That deadly eye of thine." In IV, i, 56, the Duchess of York, his mother, chimes in as a third accuser with the words (addressed to herself in reproach for having brought into the world such a monster as Richard), "A cockatrice hast thou hatch'd to the world, whose unavolued eye is murderous." The beliefs about the fatal glance of the cockatrice are too well known to enter into and are in themselves outside the scope of this note, but it should not be forgotten that this beast also "infected" the air around it.—Notes and Queries.

#### A Mountain Humorist.

Two gentlemen were traveling in one of the hill counties of Kentucky bound on an exploration for pitch pine. They had been driving for two hours without encountering a human being, when they came in sight of a cabin in a clearing. It was very still. The dogs lay where they had fallen, the thin clay bank mule grazed round and round in a neat circle to save the trouble of walking, and the lean, lank man, whose garments were the color of the clay bank mule, leaned against a tree and let time roll by.

"Wonder if he can speak?" said one traveler to the other.

"Try him," said his companion.

The two approached the man, whose yellowish eyes regarded them without apparent curiosity.

"How do you do?" said the northerner.

"Howdy," remarked the southerner languidly.

"Pleasant country?"

"Fur them that likes it."

"Lived here all your life?"

The southerner spat pensively in the dust.

"Not yit," he said.—Reader.

#### In Hard Luck.

One man had just told the story involving a suggestion to the conductor of a slow train to take the cowcatcher off the locomotive and attach it to the rear of the train, on the theory that the train couldn't possibly run over a cow and that a cow might stray into the rear door of the last coach and bite the passengers if not restrained by a cowcatcher.

"I saw a man run down by a locomotive once," said a melancholy stranger. "It was on the road from Carbonada to Seigel. At Seigel one man tried to get off a train and walk."

had proceeded about fifteen miles when the train overtook him. He was knocked down, and the train, in a leisurely sort of fashion, proceeded to run over him. The man spoke a few words and expressed the wish that \$5,000 accident insurance that he carried be given to his sweetheart. But the poor girl never got the money. Before the engine got up to the man's knees rheumatism set in, and the poor fellow died a natural death. It being an accident policy, the girl couldn't collect the money.—Kansas City Star.

### SHORT STORIES.

#### The Adirondack forests produce 630,000 of the 2,500,000 cords of pulp wood used yearly in this country.

#### Buenos Ayres is the largest city south of the equator. Rio de Janeiro comes next, while Sydney, New South Wales, is third.

#### J. Tayler Ellyson, lieutenant governor of Virginia, who is in charge of the educational exhibit at the coming Jamestown exposition, says it will be the most complete ever shown south of the Mason and Dixon line.

#### The belts which are to be used in the construction of the new Maine Central station in Bangor are the most valuable ones that have ever been used in the city, costing from 18 to 40 cents apiece. They are for both interior and exterior finishing.

#### To cover 18,000 tons of ice which was cut at Bowdoinham, Me., for a New Jersey firm a single piece of canvas is used. The cost of the canvas was \$800, and it is said to be one of the largest canvas coverings that a New York firm ever made.

#### J. D. Tant of Quannah, Tex., is arranging for the establishment of a colony of American farmers in the state of Sonora, Mexico. They will go from Texas, Kentucky and Tennessee. Only those having resources sufficient to maintain them for a couple of years while the land is being improved will be accepted as colonists.

### BRITISH BRIEFS.

#### The British postoffice is operated at a profit of \$25,000,000 a year. Sixty years ago there were 150,000 children at school in India. Now there are over 4,000,000.

#### At Liangolien, in north Wales, the highroad, the Great Western railway, the canal and the river Dee run parallel and quite close together.

#### In Bristol, England, an ambulance mounted on bicycle wheels is maintained by the Home For Lost and Starving Dogs to bring injured dogs to the hospital of the home.

#### A number of young fellows in Dover, England, have formed a "pipe league." They agree to smoke nothing but pipes, and any member of the league found smoking cigarettes is to be fined.

#### In Great Britain the cultivation of hops is restricted to some six counties of England, the total area in hops outside these counties being only 438 acres as compared with 47,411 acres within them.

### JAPANESE JOTTINGS.

#### The average monthly income in Japan after recent advances in wages is officially stated at less than \$8.

#### Japan's principal ports of export and import are, in the order named, Yokohama, Kobe, Osaka, Moji, Nagasaki and Shimonoseki.

#### Japan's taxes yield \$125,000,000 a year; stamp duties, \$13,500,000; tobacco and trade monopolies, \$29,000,000; posts and telegraphs, \$10,000,000, and salt monopoly, \$15,000,000.

#### Like the ancient Egyptians, the Japanese are accustomed to store in huge public granaries the grain saved in years of plenty against the day of need which a famine may bring with it.

#### Boron Tahaki says that four-fifths of the boys in the schools of Japan are now studying English. If they study languages with the thoroughness that they did war, Japan's next generation will have two tongues.

### THE PARCELS POST.

#### There are thirty-five foreign countries in the parcels post union.

#### France has had the parcels post since 1885 and last year transmitted nearly 3,000,000,000 packages.

#### Germany's record of parcels post business last year was nearly 7,000,000,000 packages, with profits of \$14,624,095.

#### Austro-Hungary, Italy and Switzerland have the parcels post in well developed condition. In Austro-Hungary there is a banking system in connection with it.

#### Great Britain has had parcels post for thirty years and carried last year over 4,000,000,000 packages at a profit of over \$12,000,000. Its foreign service within the empire is excellent.

### PITH AND POINT.

#### Justice may be blind, but she has a good memory.

#### Waiting works wonders—if you keep busy while waiting.

#### Introd is often the result of knowing but one side of a person.

#### An optimist is a man who declines to judge the future by the past.

#### Many a girl marries a man because of a good name.

### FACTS IN FEW LINES

#### For three-quarters of a century Belgium has had no war.

#### It is said that in Australia there is a regular traffic in lending engagement rings.

#### In 1905 there were 955 fatal accidents in the collieries of Great Britain and Ireland.

#### Only 75 per cent as many children are born in England now as were born thirty years ago.

#### In Surrey, England, the "cud" is called "quid." The expression "quid of tobacco" probably comes from this.

#### Twenty-three hundred million bushels of wheat are required annually by the 517,000,000 bread eaters of the world.

#### Wire drawing was invented by Rudolph of Nuremberg in the early part of the fifteenth century. Wire was first made in England in 1663.

#### This country ranks first in the paper making industry. Germany is second, and Great Britain comes third. The production in America is two or three times greater than in Great Britain.

#### A collection of the heads and horns of practically every variety of big game to be found in northern Rhodesia has been added to the British South Africa company's museum in London.

#### Fearing that he would be punished for spending sevenpence on sweets instead of buying fruit for his mother, a schoolboy at Adorf, Saxony, threw himself in front of a train and was killed.

#### A bushel of bituminous coal is different in different states. In Illinois, Iowa, Missouri and Kentucky its weight is eighty pounds, in Pennsylvania seventy-six pounds and in Indiana seventy pounds.

#### A cold storage trust is one of the developments promised for the near future in South Africa. All the ice and cold storage plants in the "subcontinent" will be amalgamated if the present plans carry.

#### The federal government has 678 clerks who have reached the age of threescore years and ten. In the government printing office there are seventy-six printers who have handled the stick and rule for more than half a century.

#### The tulip is the emblem of Hungarian and anti-Austrian sentiment. A tulip league has been formed in Hungary to boycott everything Austrian. The members wear a badge of a tulip in the Hungarian colors—red, white and green.

#### In the London mine at Newbridge, near Beadigo, in Victoria, Australia, a nugget of gold has been discovered weighing 335 ounces. The nugget was found in the Nick of Time Rush. When cleared of the rubbish the nugget will weigh about 300 ounces.

#### In order to keep a newly painted floor clean a western Massachusetts woman placed newspapers on the floor. On removing them it was found that she had the news of the day firmly printed on the new paint, and it has been impossible to remove the ink.

#### When the Prince and Princess of Wales desired to inspect the Golden Temple at Amritsar, in the Punjab, the Sikhs declined to allow them to enter the main gate because they were not Sikhs, but said they could enter by a side door. The offer was declined.

#### A court of law is a reminiscence of the time when justice sat in the open courtyard, and the "dock" is from a German word meaning a receptacle, while the "bar" is a Welsh word, meaning a branch of a tree used to separate the lords of justice from their vassals.

#### After being missing for two weeks a cat belonging to a family in Wiltshire, England, was found clinging to the side of a well thirty-five feet from the surface and just above the water. She was apparently none the worse for her experience when she was brought to the top.

#### Sea gulls invaded a boat load of herring at Nanaimo, Wash., while the fishermen were away. When the fishermen returned sixty had eaten so much that they could not fly away. The fishermen lifted them into the water, and they just managed to swim to the shore, where they lay down to recover from their dinner.

#### Sir Walter Gilbey, whose father was a stagecoach proprietor, has at Elsenham Hall, his beautiful Essex residence, one of the finest sporting picture galleries and libraries in the British realm. Some volumes date back to the sixteenth century, and every branch of recreation is represented, from fox hunting to cockfighting.

#### Blowing wells, sometimes known as breathing wells, are now being investigated by the United States geological survey. The best known examples of this type of well are found throughout Nebraska. The force of the air current in one of the Louisiana wells is sufficient to keep a man's hat suspended above it. Such phenomena are mainly due to changes in atmospheric pressure.

### Happiness.

#### Happiness is a sunbeam which may pass through a thousand bosoms without losing a particle of its original ray—say, when it strikes on a kindred heart, like the converged light on a mirror, it reflects itself with redoubled brightness. It is not perfected until it is shared.—James Russell Lowell.

### A SENTENCE OF DEATH.

#### Tragic Ending of a Murder Trial in a Western Court.

"One of the most tragic scenes I ever witnessed," said an aged lawyer, "occurred in a small town in one of the western states. The judge was a man of sixty or more, and in addition to a most venerable and dignified appearance and manner he was the saddest faced man I ever saw. He had come to our town ten or a dozen years before from the east, and we knew little of him except that he was an able lawyer and jurist and that his wife, who was the only other member of his family, and himself had some great sorrow.

"One night our town was all torn up by a robbery and murder and the capture of the killer and thief almost in the act. For a wonder he wasn't lynched then and there, but he wasn't, and as soon as daylight came proceedings were instituted against the prisoner, and I was appointed, with another youngster, to defend him.

"Really there wasn't any defense, and I was frank enough to tell him that he might be thankful if we could save him from a lynching. He was a stranger in the town, evidently led there by some stories he had heard of an old miser we had among us, and was a man of perhaps thirty-three or thirty-four, with a most unprepossessing appearance, greatly accentuated by a week's growth of rough whiskers, years of dissipation and hard living. In those days and in such cases the law's delay was not much in force, and by 6 o'clock of the second day the prisoner was standing before the judge to receive sentence. As he stood there that day a harder looking customer I think I never saw.

"Have you anything to say why sentence of death should not be pronounced upon you?" said the judge after all the preliminaries were over.

"I have, your honor, if you are to pronounce that sentence," replied the prisoner with an air of almost impertinence. "At least," he added half apologetically, "possibly under the circumstances you might not care to pronounce it."

"This was entirely out of the ordinary, and I touched my client on the arm and was about to remind him of the customs of the court when the judge requested me to leave the prisoner to him.

"Will you be kind enough to explain?" he said in a strangely excited tone.

"Well, your honor," responded the prisoner without a quaver of voice, "as I'm your only son—"

"But the judge heard no more. It was evident that he knew the prisoner was telling the truth, for, with a groan, he threw up his hands and fell forward across the desk in front of him, dead, a little stream of blood trickling from his lips. The excitement was terrific, and in the midst of it the prisoner dashed through a window and would have escaped, but a timely shot from a rifle in the hands of a man on the outside settled him forever. And, best of all, his mother never knew. She lingered a few months after her husband's death, and the entire population of the town considered it to be a sacred obligation to lie to her about the whole affair."

#### Lemaitre Looked Old at Thirty-five.

Jules Lemaitre was of middle height, with bent shoulders, head carried forward, near sighted and awkward. The evening dress hung ungracefully, as though its pockets were stuffed with books and papers. No one would have taken him for anything but what he was—a man of study, perhaps a professor. He stumbled over those awful stools or cushions the ouvres put under one's feet and murmured, "Pardon, madame, pardon," as he strove to gain his seat. And people whispered, "Lemaitre; Jules Lemaitre." In those days he was about thirty-five and looked almost fifty. His hair, inclined to curl, early turned gray, then white, leaving him a little bald. This added to the height of his forehead and made the rather insignificant features appear a little lacking in space, as though the face had been of india rubber and pressed too hard. The expression, the glint of the blue eyes, soon forced one to forget his rather unsatisfactory physique. When he spoke he let his words drop with a sort of careless grace, with a little hesitation too. The voice was gentle and rather high pitched. When he lectured that soft voice swelled and carried to the very extremity of a large theater and all hesitation disappeared.—Mme. Charles Bigot in Critique.

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### Sykesville.

#### Miss Ethel Hattan, of DuBois, visited with Laura Sloppy one day last week.

#### Rev. R. E. Crum, of the Reformed church of DuBois, visited in town Thursday.

#### Rev. H. N. Smith, of Troutville, preached in the M. E. church Sunday evening.

#### I. G. Mansfield, who is employed at Ernest, spent Saturday and Sunday at his home in town.

#### Miss Orrel Phillippi, of Ernest, is visiting with her cousin, Miss Ruth Sykes, at present.

#### Mrs. L. G. Mansfield and daughter, Zola, and Mrs. Thomas Smith spent Monday in DuBois.

#### Charles Gumbert and wife and Miss Cora Smith visited last week at their home near Reynoldsville.

#### Daniel Weber is home on a vacation from Troy, N. Y., where he is engaged with a civil engineer corps.

#### Miss Eva Jones returned to her home Thursday after a three weeks' visit with friends in Bradford county.

#### Chester Humbert, of Boswell, Somerset county, is visiting with Jacob Smeell and family at present.

#### Miss Myrtle McGaugherty, of Indiana, visited with her sister, Mrs. Wm. Sloppy, several days last week.

#### Mr. Mix, of Greensburg, visited with his daughter, Mrs. J. M. Loghry, several days last week and part of this week.

#### Miss Imilda Loghry returned to her home in DuBois Monday after a week's visit with her grandparents, J. M. Loghry and wife.

#### Miss Adda Hennigh, of Punxsutawney, returned to her home Wednesday after visiting with her cousin, Miss Belle Hennigh, for several days.

#### Mrs. Elizabeth Shaffer, an old and highly esteemed lady of this town, passed away Thursday, June 14th, at 2:00 p. m. at the home of her son, J. F. Weber, on Railroad street. She had suffered nearly four years from a stroke of paralysis. This, with old age, caused her death. She was 87 years, 7 months and 23 days old. She was buried Saturday afternoon in the Union cemetery near Troutville.

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